
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 8, 1865.

Read twice, ordered to be printed, and recommitted to the Committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. THAYER, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported
the following bill :

A BILL

To provide for the settlement of private land claims in the
Territory of Arizona, and for the survey thereof.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That all the right, title, and interest of the United States is
4 hereby relinquished and granted to the lands upon which the
5 pueblos or towns of Tucson, Tubac, and La Paz are located,
6 to the extent of six sections, of six hundred and forty acres
7 each, of irrigable lands next adjoining said pueblos or towns.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That, of the lands
2 above granted, an amount equal to four sections of the irriga-
3 ble lands adjoining said pueblos shall be surveyed and platted
4 agreeably to the metes and bounds by which the same has
5 been heretofore held, and the remainder in lots of not less
6 than five acres each, as the surveyor general of said Territory

7 may determine. The remaining two sections shall be laid
8 out and platted as a town, under the direction of commission-
9 ers or the corporate authorities of said town and the surveyor
10 general of the Territory, preserving as near as may be the
11 boundaries of all lots or tracts of land heretofore designated,
12 occupied, or used. And in laying out such town there shall
13 be one public square or plaza, of at least one hundred acres,
14 to be used for such public purposes as the corporate authori-
15 ties, commissioners, or trustees of said town shall allow.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said lands
2 shall be surveyed by the surveyor general of said Territory,
3 or such other person as may be designated by the Commis-
4 sioner of the General Land Office, and under the direction of
5 said Commissioner two plats of each survey shall be made,
6 one of which shall be deposited in the General Land Office in
7 Washington, and the other shall be recorded in the office of
8 the recorder of deeds for the said Territory in the county in
9 which the said towns are situated, upon the completion of
10 which a patent shall issue from the United States to the
11 trustees, commissioners, or corporate authorities respectively
12 representing the said pueblos.

1 SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted,* That after such
2 surveys and plats have been made, the judges of the several
3 district courts of the United States for the said Territory in
4 which the said towns are situated shall, in such manner as

5 they may direct, notify the parties occupying any part of said
6 lands, or claiming any right or title thereto by purchase, in-
7 heritance, possession, or cultivation, and shall, in a summary
8 manner, hear and determine such claims, and thereupon may
9 by decree, having the effect of a deed, convey all the right,
10 title, and interest of the United States in any parcel or par-
11 cels of said land to the person or persons legally or equitably
12 entitled thereto. which deed shall be recorded in the office of
13 the recorder of deeds for the county in which said land is
14 situated, as an evidence of title.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That any person
2 or persons who may feel aggrieved by the decision of said
3 district judges of the United States for said Territory, may
4 appeal therefrom to the Supreme Court of the United States;
5 the person or persons so appealing shall give notice thereof in
6 open court, or in writing, to be filed with the clerk of said
7 district court within ten days after the rendition of said de-
8 cision.

1 SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That after all claims
2 to any such lands shall have been finally determined, the
3 the remainder are hereby granted to said pueblos, to be dis-
4 posed of by the trustees, commissioners, or corporate authori-
5 ties thereof, and the proceeds applied to the erection of public
6 buildings, and such other improvements as the corporate
7 authorities of the said pueblos may direct,

1 SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the distric
2 judges of the United States for said Territory shall return to
3 the Commissioner of the General Land Office a full account
4 of their proceedings and decisions under this act.

1 SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That a surveyor
2 general for the Territory of Arizona shall be appointed by the
3 President of the United States, by and with the advice and
4 consent of the Senate, who shall hold his office four years, un-
5 less sooner removed, and who shall have the same powers,
6 receive the same compensation, and be entitled to the same
7 assistants and fees as the surveyor general of New Mexico.